Water Efficiency Labeling Program for Plumbing Products

A Manufacturer's Perspective

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A Brief Look Back...

- Prior to 1992 22 different State, Local and Municipal laws and codes regulating plumbing fixtures and fittings
- EPACT One National requirement, effective 1994 for residential and 1997 for commercial products
- Allowed for focused R&D and on high efficiency 1.6 gpf toilets and 2.5 gpm showerheads

Today's Market Realities

- Currently 37 different municipalities and water utilities in the USA are offering incentives for the installation of efficient plumbing products
- Many have lists of approved models
- Need to establish consistent and effective criteria
- An efficiency labeling system can be used as a basis for future incentive programs

Going Forward

- Additional water savings can be achieved by developing an efficiency program for plumbing products
- A national program will provide manufacturers with a powerful incentive to develop and market new water saving technologies

Research Required! Our plumbing systems are dynamic. Changes in fixture consumption will need to be verified for efficacy

Sustainability

While we need to research where we can safely reduce water consumption values in plumbing fixtures and fittings, we can begin immediately to identify product attributes that provide for water conservation at the current mandated levels throughout the life of the product.

Next Steps

- Determine a meeting date specifically for plumbing products
- Develop product segment based subcommittees to focus stakeholder input
- Begin work with all stakeholders to develop criteria for sustainability
- Identify areas where immediate reductions are safe
- Determine scope of research for further reductions